

FY2015 CHNA&HIP Progress Report

O'Brien County

Community Health Improvement Plan

GOAL	Strategies	Progress on Strategies
To improve education to school children about harmful effects of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal (street) drugs.	O'Brien County Public Health is currently a member of the Northwest Iowa Tobacco Free Coalition. Within the coalition we will address educational and marketing opportunities to bring information to school children within the county.	The O'Brien County Public Health nurse attends the Northwest Iowa Tobacco Free Coalition meetings every quarter. The LPHA supports the efforts of by the NWITFC director as he contacts the various schools in the county to deliver anti-tobacco use materials. New to this years efforts are the anti-vaping materials aimed at educating the school aged children about the dangers of smokeless cigarettes. The LPHA also supports the QUIT-line program and has participated in training about the referral process.

GOAL	Strategies	Progress on Strategies
Lack of access to Emergency Medical Services was ranked as the highest concern for 35% of the local residents surveyed in the fall of 2010. The goal is to support the efforts made towards recruitment, retainment, and training of new EMS personnel.	O'Brien County Public Health will support efforts by the county EMA director as she forms an EMS Task Force which engages a multi-disciplinary approach to finding a solution to the low numbers of volunteers on local volunteer ambulance teams across the county.	Updated progress toward this goal includes supported local EMS teams by providing seasonal influenza vaccinations at no charge to the team. The LPHA staff went to numerous team meetings in the evenings to accomplish this goal. Other ways of support included providing TB testing and Hepatitis A , B and Tdap vaccination opportunities - again with the LPHA nurse going to the team meetings in the evenings. Other forms of support given to local EMS teams is the purchase of equipment to be used for trainings and fill in the gaps for specialized equipment needed.